

Harriet Tubman School Building

“What I really hope is that school kids will come here and learn about our past, because too many people sacrificed too long for us not to remember what they did. I want this building to be a place that will bring our community together. I want it to be a place of love, kindness, compassion and acceptance of all people.”

Allan H. Kittleman, Howard County Executive



1948: Construction of the Harriet Tubman School Building.

1949: Harriet Tubman School Building opens as a high school.

May 17, 1954: U.S. Supreme Court decides in Brown v. Board of Education that "separate but equal" does not apply to public education. In March 1955, the court orders schools across the country to desegregate.

Feb. 9, 1965: The Howard County school board approves full integration of Guilford Elementary and decides to close Harriett Tubman High in the summer rather than expand it to accommodate white students.

September 1965: Segregation ends as black and white students begin the school year together.

1965 – 1980: Harriet Tubman School Building used as office for Howard County Public School System.

1981: Harriet Tubman School Building becomes HCPSS's maintenance shop.

October 16, 2015: County Executive Allan H. Kittleman signs Memorandum of Understanding with HCPSS to transfer ownership of the Harriet Tubman building and surrounding property to the County to be preserved as a historic, educational and cultural center.

April 6, 2017: County Executive Allan H. Kittleman signs legislation to acquire a building in Columbia for relocation of HCPSS functions housed in the Harriet Tubman building.

June 27, 2017: County Executive Allan H. Kittleman submits legislation to establish committee on use of the Harriet Tubman site.

September 16, 2017: For the first time, the Harriet Tubman Foundation holds its annual Harriet Tubman Foundation Day at the school building with a ceremonial ribbon cutting.

October 2017: Harriet Tubman Building Evaluation online at <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/Tubman-School-Evaluation>



Howard County Executive Allan H. Kittleman, Interim School Superintendent Dr. Michael Martirano and members of the Foundation participate in ceremonial ribbon cutting.





October 16, 2015

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Sept. 16, 2017

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See photos from the event
at right and below.

